



Build • Organize • Optimize • Strengthen • Transform

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

What is the BOOST Pilot Program?

BOOST is a new pilot program created by the Institute for Local Government (ILG) with funding and support from the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC). The pilot will help under-resourced communities create a framework for sustainable community planning that is customized and tailored to communities' specific needs.

Has ILG done this work before?

ILG has a long history of helping local governments achieve measureable gains in sustainability and climate action. Over the last decade, ILG has gathered promising practices and lessons learned about sustainability through its flagship Beacon Program for cities and counties. Now, ILG is translating that expertise to assist BOOST communities with projects ranging from housing to disaster recovery to climate action planning. Through BOOST, ILG will offer one-on-one coaching to each community that includes staff trainings, stakeholder and community engagement, and development of a realistic and sustainable implementation plan.

What are the benefits of BOOST for participants?

Not all California communities are accessing state resources and climate funding. Through BOOST, ILG and SGC will help participants excel with right-sized assistance so they can better navigate through complex issues and create healthier, more vibrant communities. BOOST communities will be able to prioritize climate action and accomplish the following:

- **Build** awareness of funding opportunities available to address climate action.
- **Organize** projects to be best positioned to meet goals.
- **Optimize** existing resources and build more capacity.
- **Strengthen** relationships with key stakeholders and identify new opportunities for regional engagement and collaboration.
- **Transform** their approach to addressing climate action.

Why was the BOOST Pilot Program created?

Californians deserve to live in communities where they can have access to clean air and water, clean transportation, affordable housing, and economic opportunity. Yet many communities across the state lack the staff capacity and resources to develop projects and secure funding to make this a reality for their residents.

How is BOOST funded?

The California Legislature appropriated money for this pilot program from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, administered through California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health outcomes, particularly in disadvantaged communities. As part of BOOST, ILG will work closely with these under-resourced communities to equip them with the skills, tools and knowledge necessary to develop sustainable communities that are protected from the worst effects of climate change.

Who are the participants?

The 2019-20 BOOST program is a pilot outreach effort focused on 10 cities and two regions in California. The jurisdictions in this initial cohort vary in size, geography and demographics. They were selected based on being under-resourced, disadvantaged or low-income, with staff capacity challenges, and a demonstrated desire to work on climate-related issues. The BOOST communities include: the cities of Arcata, Arvin, Bakersfield, East Palo Alto, El



Build • Organize • Optimize • Strengthen • Transform

Centro, Mammoth Lakes, Paramount, Salinas, San Diego and Ventura, and regions in the San Joaquin Valley and the Coachella Valley.

What is the BOOST timeframe?

The BOOST Pilot Program will run through December 2020.

Who do I contact with questions about BOOST?

Contact Karalee Browne or Christal Love-Lazard, program managers with the Institute for Local Government, at kbrowne@ca-ilg.org 916-658-8274 or clazard@ca-ilg.org 916-658-8233.